From:

Jones, Enesta

Sent: To: Tuesday, August 13, 2013 12:31 PM

Cc:

White, Candace Jones, Enesta

Subject:

EPA HQ 2013-008047

From: Jones, Enesta

Sent: Thursday, June 20, 2013 10:01 AM

**To:** Jones, Enesta; Kika, Stacy; Johnson, Alisha; Rivas-Vazquez, Victoria; Gray, David; Cohen, David; Cohen, Nancy; Minter, Marsha; Bloomgren, David; Belknap, Andra; Gentile, Laura; Reynolds, Thomas; Bassler, Rachel; Behringer,

Caroline; Deitz, Randy

Subject: KIWI: Media Inquiries for West, Texas

-- 10 a.m. Report

6/20/13 - 10 a.m. Report

# **OPEN INQUIRIES**

# West, Texas

### 1. Houston Chronicle

REPORTER: Ingrid Lobet, Ingrid.Lobet@chron.com, 713.362.7208

# REPORTER REQUEST

I am working on a story about a type of cleaning that happens in the petrochemical industry and need to speak with an expert in hazardous waste. Things I will need to talk to this person about:

- 1) documents and records required pertaining to hazardous waste that is generated at tank wash facilities
- 2) documents and records required when such waste is trucked to a haz waste disposal facility
- 3) documents and records required of the receiving hazardous waste facility

Can you identify for me who at EPA has this expertise and let me know how soon I might be able to speak with him or her?





# 2. Reuters

REPORTER: Ryan McNeill, ryan.mcneill@thomsonreuters.com, 646.223.7446

# REPORTER REQUEST

Also, can any of you help me obtain copies of RMP data provided to the Center for Effective Government?

More specifics from the reporter:

It may be under OMB Watch, the former name.

As I understand (I may be slightly off), they filed a FOIA several years ago. EPA did not respond. The group sued in federal court and EPA provided the data before it went to trial.

Long story short: All I'd like to do is get a copy of the most up-to-date RMP data. Clearly, it's public record --- I'm just hoping we can do this with the least amount of headaches for EPA and us.

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From:

Lee, Maya

Sent:

Wednesday, August 14, 2013 8:11 AM

To:

White, Candace

Subject:

EPA HQ-2013-008047 FW: KIWI: Media Inquiries for West, Texas

10 a.m. Report

Maya Lee Newman
FOIA Specialist
Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20460
Rm 3213ARS/ Mail Code 2201A

wk: 202-564-2483 fax: 202-501-0017

email: lee.maya@epa.gov

From: Gentile, Laura

Sent: Tuesday, August 13, 2013 5:32 PM

To: Lee, Maya

Subject: FW: KIWI: Media Inquiries for West, Texas

-- 10 a.m. Report

Laura L. Gentile
Senior Communications Advisor
U.S. EPA Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance
Ariel Rios South
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460

202.564.3158

From: Jones, Enesta

Sent: Thursday, June 20, 2013 10:01 AM

**To:** Jones, Enesta; Kika, Stacy; Johnson, Alisha; Rivas-Vazquez, Victoria; Gray, David; Cohen, David; Cohen, Nancy; Minter, Marsha; Bloomgren, David; Belknap, Andra; Gentile, Laura; Reynolds, Thomas; Bassler, Rachel; Behringer,

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From:

Jones, Enesta

Sent: To: Tuesday, August 13, 2013 12:31 PM

Cc:

White, Candace Jones, Enesta

Subject:

EPA HQ 2013-008047

From: Johnson, Alisha

Sent: Thursday, June 20, 2013 11:02 AM

To: Jones, Enesta

Subject: RE: KIWI: Media Inquiries for West, Texas

-- 10 a.m. Report

Can you give me a ring?

From: Jones, Enesta

Sent: Thursday, June 20, 2013 10:01 AM

**To:** Jones, Enesta; Kika, Stacy; Johnson, Alisha; Rivas-Vazquez, Victoria; Gray, David; Cohen, David; Cohen, Nancy; Minter, Marsha; Bloomgren, David; Belknap, Andra; Gentile, Laura; Reynolds, Thomas; Bassler, Rachel; Behringer,

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From:

Jones, Enesta

Sent: To: Tuesday, August 13, 2013 12:31 PM

Cc:

White, Candace Jones, Enesta

Subject:

EPA HQ 2013-008047

From: ryan.mcneill@thomsonreuters.com [mailto:ryan.mcneill@thomsonreuters.com]

Sent: Thursday, June 20, 2013 12:20 PM

To: Jones, Enesta

Subject: RE: ACTION: Reuters and ECHO

#### Enesta,

I know you are working with my colleague, Michael Pell, on another matter. But I need to talk with someone on background today about your raw enforcement data (ICIS-FE&C) to make sure I am using it correctly and interpreting it correctly. For example, I've found what I believe are the settlement of 127 enforcement actions by the EPA involving EPCRA Section 312 violations since Jan. 1, 2012. I'd like to know additional things, such as how to ensure that I'm pulling cases in which a settlement was reached and a fine was paid for those violations. Also, whether it is possible to extract the fines paid specifically for the Section 312 violations and a few other things. I have to move quickly on this and I'm sure you guys would like to ensure I'm correctly interpreting the data. Please let me know. I can make myself available to meet your schedule.

Thanks in advance,

Ryan....

From: Jones, Enesta [mailto:Jones.Enesta@epa.gov]

Sent: Thursday, June 20, 2013 11:12 AM

To: McNeill, Ryan A. (Reuters)

Subject: RE: ACTION: Reuters and ECHO

INQUIRY: Can any of you help me obtain copies of RMP data provided to the Center for

Effective Government?

**RESPONSE:** In order to receive information from RMP database, you must submit a FOIA. Here is the website address for submitting the FOIA request:

http://www.epa.gov/foia/submission.html

**INQUIRY:** So after examining TIERII data from 30 states, speaking with chemical company executives, state emergency management officials and chemical safety experts at the CSB, private groups and at universalities we have determined that the TIER II hazardous chemical storage data is often unreliable because there is almost no effort by the EPA or state agencies to make sure the data is accurate. Instead the job is left to the local fire departments and county officials who often don't even know what chemicals should be listed on a TIER II. I understand that this might be a budget issue for the EPA, but could we discuss this?

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From:

Jones, Enesta

Sent: To: Tuesday, August 13, 2013 12:30 PM

Cc:

White, Candace Jones, Enesta

Subject:

EPA HQ 2013-008047

From: Jones, Enesta

Sent: Thursday, June 20, 2013 12:26 PM

To: Gentile, Laura; Cohen, Nancy; Minter, Marsha; Bassler, Rachel; Rivas-Vazquez, Victoria; Johnson, Alisha; Gray, David;

Cohen, David; Jones, Enesta; Reynolds, Thomas

Subject: KIWI: Reuters and ECHO

OECA and OSWER,

See below. How can we be helpful to this reporter?

Enesta Jones Press Office

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Desk: 202.564.7873 Cell: 202.236.2426

From: ryan.mcneill@thomsonreuters.com Sent: Thursday, June 20, 2013 12:20:26 PM

To: Jones, Enesta

Subject: RE: ACTION: Reuters and ECHO

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Wednesday, August 14, 2013 8:11 AM

To:

White, Candace

Subject:

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Maya Lee Newman
FOIA Specialist
Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20460
Rm 3213ARS/ Mail Code 2201A

wk: 202-564-2483 fax: 202-501-0017

email: lee.maya@epa.gov

From: Gentile, Laura

Sent: Tuesday, August 13, 2013 5:32 PM

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Subject: FW: KIWI: Reuters and ECHO

Laura L. Gentile
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Ariel Rios South
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Washington, DC 20460

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OECA and OSWER,

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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Desk: 202.564.7873 Cell: 202.236.2426

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Sent:

Tuesday, August 13, 2013 12:30 PM

To: Cc: White, Candace Jones, Enesta

Subject:

EPA HQ 2013-008047

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Sent: Thursday, June 20, 2013 12:29 PM

To: Jones, Enesta; Cohen, Nancy; Minter, Marsha; Bassler, Rachel; Rivas-Vazquez, Victoria; Johnson, Alisha; Gray, David;

Cohen, David; Reynolds, Thomas

Cc: Reed, Lucy

Subject: Re: KIWI: Reuters and ECHO

#### Looping in OECA ECHO mavens

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Sent: Thursday, June 20, 2013 12:26:10 PM

To: Gentile, Laura; Cohen, Nancy; Minter, Marsha; Bassler, Rachel; Rivas-Vazquez, Victoria; Johnson, Alisha; Gray, David;

Cohen, David; Jones, Enesta; Reynolds, Thomas

Subject: KIWI: Reuters and ECHO

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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

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Jones, Enesta

Sent: To: Tuesday, August 13, 2013 12:28 PM

Cc:

White, Candace Jones, Enesta

Subject:

EPA HQ 2013-008047

From: Jones, Enesta

Sent: Thursday, June 20, 2013 8:36 PM

To: Cohen, Nancy; Minter, Marsha; Deitz, Randy; Bassler, Rachel

Cc: Jones, Enesta; Cohen, David

Subject: Fw: KIWI: Media Inquiries for West, Texas

-- 5 p.m. Report

Hi,

#### REPORTER REQUEST

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Enesta Jones Press Office

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Desk: 202.564.7873 Cell: 202.236.2426

From: Jones, Enesta

Sent: Thursday, June 20, 2013 4:57:18 PM

To: Kika, Stacy; Johnson, Alisha; Rivas-Vazquez, Victoria; Gray, David; Cohen, David; Cohen, Nancy; Minter, Marsha; Bloomgren, David; Belknap, Andra; Gentile, Laura; Reynolds, Thomas; Bassler, Rachel; Behringer, Caroline; Deitz, Randy;

Jones, Enesta

Subject: KIWI: Media Inquiries for West, Texas

- 5 p.m. Report

6/20/13 -- 5 p.m. Report

**OPEN INQUIRIES** 

West, Texas

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STATUS:

2. Reuters

REPORTER: Michael Pell, michael.pell@thomsonreuters.com, 646.223.6997

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STATUS:

Per Alisha, Enesta Jones sent the following responses to the reporter (Ryan McNeill)on 6/20:

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**CLOSED INQUIRY** 

West, Texas

1. Houston Chronicle

REPORTER: Ingrid Lobet, <a href="mailto:lobet@chron.com">lngrid.Lobet@chron.com</a>, 713.362.7208

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- 3) documents and records required of the receiving hazardous waste facility

Can you identify for me who at EPA has this expertise and let me know how soon I might be able to speak with him or her?

Per Alisha, Enesta Jones sent the following response to the reporter:

The main difference between a "tank" and a "container" is that a tank is a permanent structure while a container is portable.

The documents below are training modules for RCRA regulations, and are pretty straightforward. They can provide a general understanding of RCRA, but they are not intended to serve as comprehensive sources of regulatory information.

This one is for containers and is 13 pages. The empty container regulations discussion starts on page 7.

http://www.epa.gov/osw/inforesources/pubs/training/cont05.pdf

This one is for tanks and is 21 pages.

http://www.epa.gov/osw/inforesources/pubs/training/tanks05.pdf

This one is for hazardous waste generators and is 23 pages

http://www.epa.gov/osw/inforesources/pubs/training/gen05.pdf

This one is for hazardous waste transporters and is 13 pages

http://www.epa.gov/osw/inforesources/pubs/training/trans.pdf

This one is for a hazardous waste treatment, storage and disposal facilities and is 20 pages.

http://www.epa.gov/osw/inforesources/pubs/training/tsdf05.pdf

Enesta Jones Press Office U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Desk: 202.564.7873 Cell: 202.236.2426

From:

Jones, Enesta

Sent:

Tuesday, August 13, 2013 12:30 PM

To: Cc: White, Candace Jones, Enesta

Subject:

EPA HQ 2013-008047

----Original Message-----From: Jones, Enesta

Sent: Thursday, June 20, 2013 2:16 PM

To: Cohen, David

Cc: Smith, Roxanne; AO OEAEE MEDIA RELATIONS

Subject: E's input: for 6/20 hot issues

1. Sen. Barbara Boxer, who chairs the Senate's Environment and Public Works Committee, has asked for a hearing on Thurs., June 27 about the West Fertilizer explosion. OCIR said they have not yet received an invitation, but OSWER is preparing for it.

3. Reuters reporter Ryan McNeill is asking for a backgrounder today on EPCRA violations and settlements since 2012. His colleague, Michael Pell, is requesting an on-the-record to discuss the flaws and reliability of the TIER II reporting system, for follow-up pieces on the Texas and Louisiana explosions. OMR is working with OECA, OSWER and OPS on how to proceed with these requests.

Enesta Jones Press Office

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Desk: 202.564.7873 Cell: 202.236.2426

From:

Lee, Maya

Sent:

Wednesday, August 14, 2013 8:11 AM

To:

White, Candace

Subject:

EPA HQ-2013-008047 FW: KIWI: Reuters and ECHO

Maya Lee Newman FOIA Specialist Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Pennsylvania Ave, NW Washington, DC 20460 Rm 3213ARS/ Mail Code 2201A

wk: 202-564-2483 fax: 202-501-0017

email: lee.maya@epa.gov

From: Gentile, Laura

Sent: Tuesday, August 13, 2013 5:33 PM

To: Lee, Maya

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Laura L. Gentile
Senior Communications Advisor
U.S. EPA Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance
Ariel Rios South
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460

202.564.3158

From: Cottrill, Edward

Sent: Thursday, June 20, 2013 2:19 PM

To: Gentile, Laura

Subject: FW: KIWI: Reuters and ECHO

#### Laura,

Please see Jerry's response below. Given his findings and questions, how can we help you?

#### Thanks

From: Lappan, Jerry

Sent: Thursday, June 20, 2013 2:09 PM

To: Cottrill, Edward

Cc: Reed, Lucy

Subject: RE: KIWI: Reuters and ECHO

From: Cottrill, Edward

Sent: Thursday, June 20, 2013 1:43 PM

To: Lappan, Jerry Cc: Reed, Lucy

Subject: FW: KIWI: Reuters and ECHO

Jerry,

From: Reed, Lucy

Sent: Thursday, June 20, 2013 1:38 PM

To: Barrette, Michael; Cottrill, Edward; Lappan, Jerry

Cc: Dombrowski, John

Subject: FW: KIWI: Reuters and ECHO

fyi

From: Gentile, Laura

Sent: Thursday, June 20, 2013 12:29 PM

To: Jones, Enesta; Cohen, Nancy; Minter, Marsha; Bassler, Rachel; Rivas-Vazquez, Victoria; Johnson, Alisha; Gray, David;

Cohen, David; Reynolds, Thomas

Cc: Reed, Lucy

Subject: Re: KIWI: Reuters and ECHO

Looping in OECA ECHO mavens

From: Jones, Enesta

Sent: Thursday, June 20, 2013 12:26:10 PM

To: Gentile, Laura; Cohen, Nancy; Minter, Marsha; Bassler, Rachel; Rivas-Vazquez, Victoria; Johnson, Alisha; Gray, David;

Cohen, David; Jones, Enesta; Reynolds, Thomas

Subject: KIWI: Reuters and ECHO

OECA and OSWER,

See below. How can we be helpful to this reporter?

Enesta Jones Press Office U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Desk: 202.564.7873 Cell: 202.236.2426

From: ryan.mcneill@thomsonreuters.com
Sent: Thursday, June 20, 2013 12:20:26 PM

To: Jones, Enesta

Subject: RE: ACTION: Reuters and ECHO

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Thanks in advance,

Ryan....

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Sent: Thursday, June 20, 2013 11:12 AM

To: McNeill, Ryan A. (Reuters)

Subject: RE: ACTION: Reuters and ECHO

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**RESPONSE:** In order to receive information from RMP database, you must submit a FOIA. Here is the website address for submitting the FOIA request: <a href="http://www.epa.gov/foia/submission.html">http://www.epa.gov/foia/submission.html</a>

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**RESPONSE:** The EPCRA statute stipulates that the Tier II information goes to the SERCs, LEPCs, and fire department, not to EPA. It is therefore up to those entities to review the information and ensure it is correct.

From:

Jones, Enesta

Sent: To: Tuesday, August 13, 2013 12:29 PM

Cc:

White, Candace Jones, Enesta

Subject:

EPA HQ 2013-008047

From: Jones, Enesta

Sent: Thursday, June 20, 2013 4:57 PM

**To:** Kika, Stacy; Johnson, Alisha; Rivas-Vazquez, Victoria; Gray, David; Cohen, David; Cohen, Nancy; Minter, Marsha; Bloomgren, David; Belknap, Andra; Gentile, Laura; Reynolds, Thomas; Bassler, Rachel; Behringer, Caroline; Deitz, Randy;

Jones, Enesta

Subject: KIWI: Media Inquiries for West, Texas

-- 5 p.m. Report

6/20/13 -- 5 p.m. Report

**OPEN INQUIRIES** 

West, Texas

1. Reuters

REPORTER: Ryan McNeill, ryan.mcneill@thomsonreuters.com, 646.223.7446

#### REPORTER FOLLOW-UP REQUEST on 6/20:

I know you are working with my colleague, Michael Pell, on another matter. But I need to talk with someone on background today about your raw enforcement data (ICIS-FE&C) to make sure I am using it correctly and interpreting it correctly. For example, I've found what I believe are the settlement of 127 enforcement actions by the EPA involving EPCRA Section 312 violations since Jan. 1, 2012. I'd like to know additional things, such as how to ensure that I'm pulling cases in which a settlement was reached and a fine was paid for those violations. Also, whether it is possible to extract the fines paid specifically for the Section 312 violations and a few other things. I have to move quickly on this and I'm sure you guys would like to ensure I'm correctly interpreting the data. Please let me know. I can make myself available to meet your schedule.

STATUS:

2. Reuters

REPORTER: Michael Pell, michael.pell@thomsonreuters.com, 646.223.6997

# REPORTER REQUEST

I don't need background comments. I need someone to discuss the flaws of the TIER II reporting system with me on the record. For example, the states and local officials say they expect EPA enforces TIER II reporting requirements. If no one is ensuring the quality of the data, how reliable of a tool are the TIER II reports?

STATUS:

Per Alisha, Enesta Jones sent the following responses to the reporter (Ryan McNeill) on 6/20:

INQUIRY: Can any of you help me obtain copies of RMP data provided to the Center for Effective Government?

RESPONSE: In order to receive information from RMP database, you must submit a FOIA.

Here is the website address for submitting the FOIA request: <a href="http://www.epa.gov/foia/submission.html">http://www.epa.gov/foia/submission.html</a>

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RESPONSE: The EPCRA statute stipulates that the Tier II information goes to the SERCs, LEPCs, and fire department, not to EPA. It is therefore up to those entities to review the information and ensure it is correct.



#### **CLOSED INQUIRY**

West, Texas

1. Houston Chronicle

REPORTER: Ingrid Lobet, Ingrid.Lobet@chron.com, 713.362.7208

#### REPORTER REQUEST

I am working on a story about a type of cleaning that happens in the petrochemical industry and need to speak with an expert in hazardous waste. Things I will need to talk to this person about:

- 1) documents and records required pertaining to hazardous waste that is generated at tank wash facilities
- 2) documents and records required when such waste is trucked to a haz waste disposal facility
- 3) documents and records required of the receiving hazardous waste facility

Can you identify for me who at EPA has this expertise and let me know how soon I might be able to speak with him or her?

Per Alisha, Enesta Jones sent the following response to the reporter:

The main difference between a "tank" and a "container" is that a tank is a permanent structure while a container is portable.

The documents below are training modules for RCRA regulations, and are pretty straightforward. They can provide a general understanding of RCRA, but they are not intended to serve as comprehensive sources of regulatory information.

This one is for containers and is 13 pages. The empty container regulations discussion starts on page 7.

http://www.epa.gov/osw/inforesources/pubs/training/cont05.pdf

This one is for tanks and is 21 pages.

http://www.epa.gov/osw/inforesources/pubs/training/tanks05.pdf

This one is for hazardous waste generators and is 23 pages

http://www.epa.gov/osw/inforesources/pubs/training/gen05.pdf

This one is for hazardous waste transporters and is 13 pages

http://www.epa.gov/osw/inforesources/pubs/training/trans.pdf

This one is for a hazardous waste treatment, storage and disposal facilities and is 20 pages.

http://www.epa.gov/osw/inforesources/pubs/training/tsdf05.pdf

Enesta Jones Press Office U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Desk: 202.564.7873 Cell: 202.236.2426

From:

Jones, Enesta

Sent:

Tuesday, August 13, 2013 12:29 PM

To: Cc: White, Candace Jones, Enesta

Subject:

EPA HQ 2013-008047

From: Gentile, Laura

Sent: Thursday, June 20, 2013 5:18 PM

To: Jones, Enesta Cc: Gray, David

Subject: Fw: KIWI: Reuters and ECHO

#### Thanks Lucy

#### Enesta / David - OECA update on ECHO questions

From: Reed, Lucy

Sent: Thursday, June 20, 2013 5:15:18 PM

To: Gentile, Laura Cc: Dombrowski, John

Subject: FW: KIWI: Reuters and ECHO

FYI.

We will still take a look at

it and get back to you tomorrow. Thanks.

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Reed, Lucy

Sent:

Thursday, June 20, 2013 5:15 PM

To:

Gentile, Laura Dombrowski, John

Cc: Subject:

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From:

Dombrowski, John

Sent:

Thursday, June 20, 2013 5:31 PM

To: Subject: Gentile, Laura; Reed, Lucy RE: KIWI: Reuters and ECHO

It's 5:30...I would suggest a beer over coffee...I have some kid duty I need to tend to at home though...have a good weekend!

John Dombrowski, P.E.

Director,

**Enforcement Targeting and Data Divison** 

US EPA/OECA/OC Tele. 202-566-0742

From: Gentile, Laura

Sent: Thursday, June 20, 2013 5:19 PM

To: Reed, Lucy Cc: Dombrowski, John

Subject: Re: KIWI: Reuters and ECHO

Great -- thanks!

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